

668 Siberian *taiga*, it was for having been republicans or
538 socialists or for having struggled against Tsarism but
not against Russia.

538 Sometimes it is claimed that Chevtchenko was
personally hostile to everything Russian. But he seems
to have been nothing of the kind. An admirer of the
'noble spirit' of Gogol, Chevtchenko himself wrote
his personal diary in Russian and he has left us no less
than eleven novels and some poetry written in the same
language, of which two poems were written before his
exile. By conviction and by temperament a revolution-
ary, Chevtchenko felt himself intimately united with
the opposition circles in Great Russia and belonged, as
such, to the great family of Russian men of letters.

● [609] On the other hand, always true to the popular feelings
and sharing with the Ukrainian peasants the hostility
towards the German and particularly towards the
estate-owners and the school-teachers, he vituperates,
in his *Epistle to Compatriots*, against their subjection to
German intellectual and cultural influence. When
speaking of his young compatriots he says that they
blamed their parents 'as they have not taught them to
chatter in German in their childhood.' And Chevtchenko
laments that 'Ukraine, such are your sons, your young
flowers, watered with ink in the German hothouses.'
He equally revolts against the vanity of Ukrainian youth,
taught by German scholars of whose infallibility they
are convinced:

'I have seen everything, I know everything.
There is no hell nor paradise,
Nor God:
There is nought but I,
And the small angular German,
And nothing more. This is enough, little brother,
But what do you represent in reality?
... As the German says: we do not know.'

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

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531 Mountainous Ruthenia is a country of traditional costumes. The beautiful embroideries which decorate them and their colour-effects testify to the innate artistic sense of the people. Their patterns and hues vary not only from tribe to tribe but also from village to village. Blue, brown and red are their favourite colours, but one may say that practically all the colours are represented. On weekdays their attire is rather simple. But on Sundays and festivals the space in front of the wooden church is a veritable kaleidoscope of well-blended hues. Particularly striking is the garb of the Huculs whose artistic talent also shows in their elaborate wood-carvings and in their love of music.

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574 Life is hard in the mountains and forests of Carpathian Ruthenia. Yet the small farmers, wood-cutters, labourers and shepherds who live there are a friendly and hospitable race. The traditional rule that a stranger who comes into a Ruthenian cottage is to be hospitably received has found a remarkable illustration in recent times. The inhabitants of one village in the South have decided that the passengers on the bus which passes through the village once a day have to be treated as guests. And so whenever the bus arrives a peasant woman with a basket full of fruit or cheese or buns is waiting at the stop to share out her eatables among the travellers.

177 In the southern part of the country life and people are different.
471 Here one comes across fields of maize, wheat and tobacco, while on the sunny hills bordering on the fertile plain further south there are rich vineyards. But most of this good soil is not the property of the
563 Ruthenians; they have been pushed into the mountains by the Hungarians who owe much of the land and employ the native Ruthenians
444 as seasonal labourers. In this part of the country the population is mixed, and the Ruthenians who live here have surrendered much of their racial individuality as well as the traditional costumes. No wonder that those uplanders who moved south for economic reasons long to return to their poor but proud mountains.

369 Carpathian Ruthenia is a rural country. Even its largest towns, such as Mukačevo with a State tobacco factory and other works,
655 Berehovo, the centre of the Ruthenian wine trade, Sevljuš with excellent
438 vineyards, are essentially provincial in character.

The largest town, Užhorod, has assumed the character of a modern
361 city since it became the capital of Carpathian Ruthenia during the twenty years of the Czechoslovak Republic. The government built here
341 imposing public buildings as well as large blocks of up-to-date residential flats for its civil servants. Prominent among these representative buildings is Zemský Úrad housing the headquarters of the administration of Carpathian Ruthenia; its façade is strictly modern and its interior, particularly the Parliament Chamber and the large Reception Hall, is beautifully equipped.

This part of Užhorod is well laid out; right along the river bank